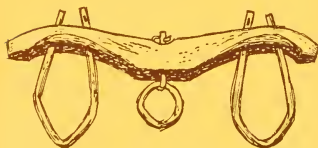


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E5L626 Vol. 12, no. 10,
February, 1931,
Dedication Number.

LINCOLN ROOM

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS
LIBRARY



MEMORIAL

the Class of 1901

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HARLAN HOYT HORNER

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LIFE WITH THE ANCIENTS
BY J. H. M. J. VAN DER BEEK

DEDICATION NUMBER

LIFE WITH THE LINCOLN

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Issued by the Office Administration Department in the Interests of the Personnel at the Home and Branch Offices

Vol. 12

February, 1931

No. 10

AN OUTSTANDING ACHIEVEMENT

Abraham Lincoln, the embodiment of the highest ideals of the masses, has become the foremost of our universal figures. In view of this fact a new emphasis has been placed on the value of all that relates to his life and public works.

The dedication of an additional library in a nation where memorials have often taken this form would not usually arouse widespread interest, but the achievement of the Lincoln Historical Research Foundation, which is to be crowned by appropriate exercises on the eve of Lincoln's birthday, is of world significance.

To have brought together an outstanding collection of Lincoln literature, believed to be the largest and most comprehensive compilation of historic data which private enterprise has ever gathered about one man (biblical characters excepted), is an accomplishment which seems to warrant more than local attention.

The urge which prompted this memorial effort may be found in the personnel of The Lincoln National Life Insurance Company which has borne and honored the name of Lincoln for a quarter of a century, and whose authority for bearing so illustrious a title was granted by a son of the martyred Lincoln.

In harmony with the dedication program thus announced, and partaking of the atmosphere which the approach of Lincoln's birthday creates, this special Lincoln number of "Life With The Lincoln" greets its readers.





DR. LOUIS A. WARREN

Lincoln Museum and Library

THAT a fitting memorial to Abraham Lincoln might be established in recognition of the privilege of using the Lincoln name, The Lincoln National Life Insurance Company established the Lincoln Historical Research Foundation. The library of the Foundation, containing one of the largest collections of Lincolniana in private hands today, is the embodiment of the tribute. To recognize the past and to give to the present and posterity a collation of literature which depicts Lincoln by men of his time and past, to foster and encourage a better and truer insight into the life and actions of the man than ever before, and to preserve for the student of Lincolniana secondary and source material, this collection of books, pamphlets, magazines, newspapers, and manuscripts was thus assembled. Appearing in one of the Company's publications at the time of the creation of the Foundation can be found the following statement: "Americans owe a debt to Abraham Lincoln that can never be repaid except in the veneration of his name and emulation of his character."

On February twelfth, nineteen hundred twenty-eight, the creation of the Lincoln Historical Research Foundation as a separate department of The Lincoln National Life Insurance Company became a reality, the culmination of the hopes and ideas of its president, Arthur F. Hall. As a student of Lincoln, as were other officers of the Company, he was largely influential in the establishment of the new department. Through his interest and benefaction the library of the Foundation has become a memento of worth.

At the head of the Foundation is its director, Dr. Louis A. Warren. All work is carried on through his administration and guidance. Services of the Foundation to all students interested in Lincoln are gratis. Because of the diversity of its work, the Foundation has been divided into seven bureaus. The Research bureau interprets the life of Lincoln as revealed in authorized public records and original manuscripts. The Publication bureau assembles and prepares historical data for release in books, pamphlets, and magazines. The Information bureau compiles and indexes all available information bearing on the subject of Lincolniana. The Exhibit bureau collects portraits of Lincoln, curios, medals, souvenirs, etc., for public display. The Speakers bureau provides speakers for meetings of civic clubs, school groups, church organizations, etc. The Educational bureau promotes contests, arranges programs, and stimulates an interest in the study of Lincoln's life. The Memorial bureau marks the sites of historical significance associated with Lincoln, and emphasizes anniversary occasions.

It is the library itself, however, that is regarded as being the most valuable asset of the Foundation. By combining several collections of books, pamphlets, periodicals, newspapers, manuscripts, documents, and portraits, the library was thus formed.

The *Daniel Fish Collection of Early Books and Pamphlets* is really the mainstay of the Foundation.

Mr. Fish (1848-1924), former Judge of the Fourth District of Minnesota, was one of the most persistent collectors of Lincoln material. It was he

who published the first acceptable Lincoln bibliography in 1906. He was one of the "Big Five" collectors.

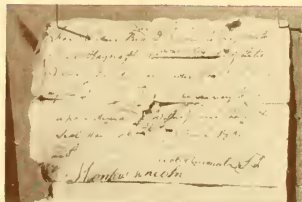
Since introducing the "Big Five," it is only fitting that they should have more than passing mention. This group was composed of Major William H. Lambert, Charles W. McLellan, Judd Stewart, Benjamin Oakleaf, and Daniel Fish, all of whom are now deceased. The members of this coterie are to be remembered for the Lincoln libraries of which they were the creators. Through their interdependence upon each other to secure prized items and to learn of newly discovered publications, they developed a group which was remarkably amicable, though competitive. Had not their assistance been extended to each other, the attempt to create collections so complete would have been futile.

The Stewart collection is now in the Huntington Library and Art Galleries of San Gabriel, California. The McLellan collection is at Brown University in the John Hay Memorial Library. The Lambert collection was sold at auction. The Oakleaf collection is still in possession of the Oakleaf family.

Within the Fish collection can be found an array of sermons and discourses coming from the American pulpit after Lincoln's death. The gist of these, in pamphlet form, were funeral orations preached by the clergy of various denominations on either the day of or the Sunday following Lincoln's funeral. During the succeeding month additional orations of a sermonic and laudatory nature

(Continued on Page 11)

« Rare and Valuable Manuscripts »



Thomas Lincoln's Signature

A rare manuscript indeed is a promissory note of 1803 on which the father of Abraham Lincoln had written his signature as a witness. Inasmuch as it is alleged that Thomas Lincoln could not write, this is good evidence to the contrary. This old manuscript is in the Helm-Haycraft collection, and is but one of hundreds of others bearing the signature of Thomas Lincoln and his neighbors.

Civil War Letters

Soldiers' letters in any war are usually full of valuable historical information, and those in the Foundation's collection mentioning Lincoln are especially interesting. A large collection of envelopes of this period, many bearing the likeness of Lincoln, are also to be found in this department. Many papers and letters written from the southern viewpoint also contribute to this phase of the study of Lincoln.

Robert Lincoln's Letter

When the Company was organized, Mr. Hall wrote to Robert T. Lincoln, son of the President, setting forth the ideals of the Company, and asking permission to use his father's name. The answer is herewith reproduced.



Lincoln Autographs

The most valuable groups of letters in the manuscript files are those in the handwriting of Abraham Lincoln. There are twelve separate items in all, and they are exhibited in transparent containers securely bound in what is called the "Treasure Book." All but one or two of these original manuscripts are unpublished.

The earliest of these documents written by Lincoln bears the date of 1837. This is the very year Lincoln moved to Springfield, Illinois, and started his active practice as a lawyer, forming a partnership with Stuart.

A document written by Lincoln in 1842, ten days after his marriage to Mary Todd, is of interest not only because of the closeness of the date to his wedding, but because it contains the names of the two Dresser brothers, Nathan and Henry, said to be brothers of Charles Dresser, the clergyman who solemnized the wedding.

A document written by Lincoln in 1843 at the time he was associated with Logan as a law partner bears the name of Joshua F. Speed, one of Lincoln's closest friends in the early days.

Most interesting of all the legal writings in this collection is a manuscript of 1849 bearing the handwriting of both Lincoln and Herndon, two lines appearing in the handwriting of the latter.

The earliest of the personal letters of Lincoln in this collection is dated August 9, 1850, and addressed to John Addison. Others appear at later dates written to Richard Thompson, Cooper and Reynolds, General Sherman, J. R. Doolittle, and Edwin A. Palmer, Jr. The latter is brief and to the point as follows:

Springfield, Ill., June 4, 1860.

Edwin A. Palmer, Jr.,

Dear Sir:

You request an autograph and here it is.

Yours truly,

A. Lincoln.

The Treasure Book also contains endorsements, notes, and addressed envelopes in Lincoln's own handwriting.

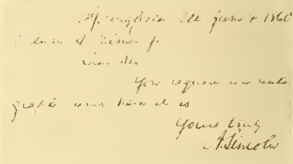
Ten Thousand Manuscripts

The manuscript collection of the Lincoln Historical Research Foundation abounds in rare and valuable historical data. More than ten thousand separate items are to be found in this section of the library archives.

Some of the manuscripts date back to 1776 and are contemporaneous with the residence of Lincoln's ancestors in Virginia and Kentucky. A large number of the items of somewhat later date relate to Lincoln and his associates. The years following the administration of Lincoln are rich in reminiscences and family records directly referring to him.

Current Correspondence

One of the most interesting phases of the manuscript department is the Lincoln correspondence which accumulates daily and contains much information about Lincoln. One famous Lincoln biographer said that he counted the day lost when some inquiry about Lincoln did not reach him. The director of the Lincoln Historical Research Foundation counts it a light day's mail indeed that does not bring a dozen written contacts with those interested in the life and works of Abraham Lincoln. This constantly growing mass of historical data is in itself becoming a valuable source of information.



Copied Court Records

The great bulk of copied court records gathered over a period of ten years by the director of the Foundation constitutes another valuable lot of source material. These duly authorized records have already changed the conception of Lincoln's parentage and childhood, and still further evidence of Lincoln's formative years is being gleaned from these copied manuscript records.

Family Records

There does not exist a more complete collection of manuscripts referring to the Hanks family than the one now in the archives of the Foundation. Early documents, family records, genealogical tables, personal correspondence, and a great mass of data on the maternal side of Lincoln's ancestry is available. Two massive typewritten volumes which some day will be published, are already prepared, based on these records.

Autographs of Famous Men

Not only does the manuscript collection contain autographs of Lincoln's contemporaries, but also of those who can be associated with Lincoln in some way. Autographs of many of the presidents of the United States are to be found; letters of all the thirteen men who served in Lincoln's cabinets, and hundreds of signatures of men who were closely associated with Lincoln in legal and political fields of effort.

BOOKS, BOOKS, EVERYWHERE!

On Pure Vellum

Walt Whitman's poem, *When Lilacs Last in the Dooryard Bloomed*, has often been published separately; but few publishers have brought out more beautiful editions of this poem than have Thomas B. Mosher, Portland, Maine, and Edward Arnold, London, England. The Mosher books have appeared in several editions, one of which, printed on pure vellum and limited to an edition of seven copies, is excessively rare. The Arnold book, also printed on vellum, has interesting painted capitals, and frontispiece by C. R. Ashbee.

Abe's Library

One interesting group is that containing those books of the same edition that Lincoln used as a youth in Indiana and Illinois. Here can be found Ramsay's *Life of George Washington*, Horry's *Life of Gen. Francis Marion*, Murray's *English Reader*, *The Theological Works of Thomas Paine*, and Pike's *New Complete System of Arithmetic*. It was Lindley Murray's *English Reader*, with its collection of prose and verse, which Lincoln considered the best book ever put into the hands of American youth.

A Miniature

The smallest Lincolniana item is *Addresses of Abraham Lincoln*, published by the Kingsport Press, Kingsport, Tennessee. This diminutive volume, half the size of a postage stamp, bound in red leather, and possessing all the qualities of a full-size book, contains the Gettysburg Address, the Second Inaugural, "A House Divided" speech, and the speech on "Equality in a Republic."

Rare Etchings

Mr. Bernhard Wall, etcher and publisher, has contributed three items of note. His *Lincoln's New Salem* (1926) portrays scenes associated with Lincoln's New Salem life. Another publication by Wall is a group of etchings in conjunction with Edwin Markham's famous poem, *Lincoln, the Man of the People* (1922). *Three Warriors on Lincoln's Birthday* (1928), Mr. Wall explains, is "a slight conversation between veterans of three wars."

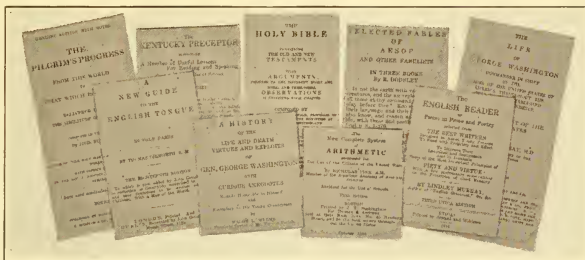
Lincoln in the Languages

The foreign books, both translations from the English and the original, amount to almost a hundred and fifty in number. All the frailties, virtues, thoughts, reflections, intentions, family, friends, enemies, *ad infinitum*, of the venerated sixteenth President of the United States have been written and translated into all the ordinary vernaculars of this globe: English, French, Spanish, German, Italian, Swedish, Norwegian, Dutch, Danish, Welsh, Icelandic, Russian, Bohemian, Chinese, Japanese, Persian, Hebrew, Yiddish, Greek, Hawaiian, Portuguese, Polish, and Finnish. Some of the foreign works published within recent times are remarkable for their fine limited editions.

Caricatures and Cartoons

The two-volume cartoon history, *Abraham Lincoln, His Path to the Presidency*, and *Abraham Lincoln, The Year of His Election* (1929), by Albert Shaw, editor of the *Review of Reviews*, gives us the Lincoln and his times as depicted by both home and foreign cartoons. The illustrations come from *Punch*, *Frank Leslie's Illustrated Newspaper*, *Currier and Ives*, and other original sources. In addition, Mr. Shaw has given us a brilliant account of the period, 1809-1860, a tableau that is immensely interesting. It has been written of this work that it "is not just another Lincoln biography, bringing out all the time-worn myths we were told in our childhood. This is the story of Lincoln

as seen by men who hated him as well as those who loved him — presenting their opinions before any had the remotest idea that here was a man for the ages."



Title Pages in Abe's Library

The Braille System

That the blind may become acquainted with the story of Abraham Lincoln, several items have been printed in Braille, a system using raised symbols and needing a keen sense of touch to interpret. John Drinkwater's play, "Abraham Lincoln" has been published in several editions, both at home and abroad. Andrews' "Perfect Tribute," Schurz's "Abraham Lincoln," and Hamilton's "Story of Abraham Lincoln" are other works that have been transcribed recently.

Campaign Biographies

The number of biographies in the Fish collection date from the earliest one known, published in 1860, to those up through the centennial year, 1909. The first of the biographies, and one of the rarest, is that paper-bound volume prepared for campaign purposes and to acquaint the public with a little-known candidate. Thayer and Eldridge published it under the title *The Life and Public Services of Hon. Abraham Lincoln, of Illinois, and Hon. Hannibal Hamlin, of Maine*.

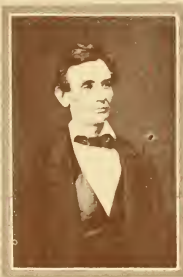
Red Damask Inlaid

Bound in the historic red damask which hung in the Todd home in Lexington, where Mary Todd lived for years and where Abraham

Lincoln stayed, the limited edition of *Mary, Wife of Lincoln*, by her niece, Katherine Helm, is one of the most interesting of recent publications. The damask used in binding this edition, Miss Helm explains, had been preserved in the Todd and Helm families for years.

Profusely Illustrated

Depicting Lincoln as a Congressman in 1848 and so on through the years to a few days before his death, the Frederick H. Meserve collection of reprints of the one hundred known photographs of Lincoln is especially interesting. These were published by the collector in book form in 1911 under the title, *The Photographs of Abraham Lincoln*. Amusing stories are connected with the prints on each page of the book. Here is Lincoln shown for the first time when his beard had just started to grow, with his son, Tad, posing before a photographer's backdrop which shows the Washington monument a third completed. Again he is shown with Union Officers at Antietam; and also, before Independence Hall.



THE HOME OF THE LINCOLN HIST

With Eighteen Famous Lincoln Portraits, U



HISTORICAL RESEARCH FOUNDATION

by Permission of Frederick H. Meserve

« « LINCOLN AT WORK » »

Railsplitter

Lincoln began his task of railsplitting at the early age of eight and continued off and on until his twenty-third year. At one time he earned a suit of clothes, yard by yard, splitting rails for a neighbor. At another time he was under contract to split three thousand rails for a neighbor.

Farmer

Like most other pioneers, Lincoln came in contact with much farm work all of the early part of his life. His father had at one time a 348½-acre farm in Kentucky, and other farms and claims at various times as well. When the family moved to Indiana, Abe had to turn out and help his father with the planting, the harvesting, and all the odd jobs necessary about a farm. In Illinois, Thomas Lincoln and Abe raised a crop of corn the same season they arrived there.

Boatman

When he was sixteen, Abe was a ferryman at an Ohio River landing. He ran the boat across Anderson Creek, near its mouth, where it empties into the Ohio.

As his skill in handling a boat grew, one of the neighbors suggested that Lincoln accompany his son on a business trip down the Mississippi. This was when he was nineteen, in April, 1828. The trip was made on a flatboat.

His second trip down to New Orleans was made after the family had moved to Illinois. This time he made the trip for Denton Offutt.

Carpenter

Like most of the other pioneers, Abe was forced to be a carpenter of sorts. A "rough" carpenter, to be sure, but the log cabins he helped build kept out the summer rains and the storms of winter.

Neither was it a small feat of carpentry to have built, even with the help of two other men, a flatboat large enough and durable enough to make the perilous trip down the Mississippi river to New Orleans.



Sexton

The Pigeon Baptist Church, an old log church standing about a quarter of a mile from the grave of Nancy Hanks in Spencer County, Indiana, was visited in 1866 by Caleb Obenshain, then a teacher in Rockport Academy in the southern part of Indiana. He states that while at the church he climbed into the loft to familiarize himself with the building, and discovered in a crevice between two of the upper logs an old faded memorandum book that had seen much use. He found the entry

Dr. to 1 broom

Dr. ½ doz. tallow candles

Abe Lincoln, Sexton
on one page of the book.

Storekeeper

Many and varied were his experiences as a clerk and later as part owner of a store himself.

It was while he was a storekeeper that Lincoln incurred one of the most discouraging handicaps of his life. He was left with a bankrupt business and eleven hundred dollars worth of debts—a huge sum in that day. However, instead of evading the responsibilities, he set to work and paid back his creditors after first going to them and telling them that if they would let him alone he would give them all he could earn over his living, as fast as he could earn it. He said later that this debt was the greatest obstacle he had ever had in his life.

Postmaster

Lincoln was appointed postmaster of New Salem, Illinois, in 1833. This was his first recognition by the general public, and the fact that his own political faith was not in harmony with the administration then in power must have assured him that he had gained the good-will of all his neighbors.

He was prompt in quarterly payments, and kept the post-office money separate from his other money, by keeping it in an old blue sock. Upon being told that he "might as well have used this money as to have had it tied up in an old stocking," he replied:

"I never use money that does not belong to me."

Soldier

Lincoln was a volunteer in the Black Hawk war at the age of twenty-three, and was elected captain of his company, most of the members of which were husky, rough young fellows from the neighborhood of New Salem. He stated that this surprise appointment gave him more pleasure than any which he had since had.

Surveyor

John Calhoun, county surveyor of Sangamon County in 1833 and 1834, offered Lincoln the job of deputy surveyor and helped him to procure a textbook on the subject. Lincoln



sought out his friend, Mentor Graham, the school teacher, and was assisted greatly in mastering the text. He conquered the subject after six weeks of studying so tirelessly that his friends became alarmed over his tired and haggard appearance. He was assigned all the territory in the northwest part of the county and did his first work of record in January, 1834.

Lawyer

The period of Lincoln's greatest law activity lay between 1850 and 1860, the most successful part of this period being immediately after his return from Congress. He went at law with greater earnestness then, believing himself through with politics. He won many cases with his humorous stories and anecdotes, explaining thus to a friend: "They're easier for common folks to recollect."

In his Illinois law days he rode the Eighth Judicial Circuit almost constantly, often borrowing a horse or hiring a seat in a wagon that was going through.

His office was always rather shabbily kept as he was not in it much, being more at home in the courts. When not there he preferred to be on the street talking to friends or with congenial people at home. His accounts and case notes were not well systematized, either, and one Lincoln collection has an odd bundle with an inscription in Lincoln's handwriting: "If you can't find it anywhere else look in here."

Politician

The friends and neighbors back in Sangamon county always lent Abe their sturdiest support whenever he went electioneering, and, although he was defeated the first time he ran for the Illinois legislature, he was elected for four terms straight after that, then declined re-election.

Although defeated in his first campaign for a seat in Congress in 1833, he did not give up, but in his succeeding years of law practice ever kept an eye on the national phase of politics, with the result that he was elected to Congress in 1846 where he served one term in the lower house. He did not re-enter as a candidate.

« Lincoln on Metal, Silk and Paper »



Old Funeral Badge

The badge pictured herewith was recently presented to the Foundation by Franklin B. Mead, Executive Vice-President of the Company.

An unusual and striking feature of this badge is that the pictured Lincoln is identical with the Brady photograph recommended to the Company by Robert T. Lincoln at the time he gave his permission to use his father's name in conjunction with the Company.

The curio is an heirloom coming down to Mr. Mead from his grandfather, who wore it during the Lincoln funeral services.

Under This Roof

A crumbling piece of poplar wood in which three kinds of nails—telling a story of their own—are found, is an unusual bit of Lincolniana in the possession of the Foundation.

This bit of board was a part of the studding of the roof beneath which Thomas Lincoln was married to Sarah Bush Johnston. It was onto this studding that the shingles were nailed, and the three types of nails—one a primitive wooden peg, one a hand-made spike, and the third a manufactured shingle nail—indicate the repairs to the roof, as well as the progress of building materials in that day.

Inspired Music

In both melody and song was Lincoln lavishly eulogized and honored; though a few southern compositions derided him. *The Rail-Splitter's Polka* and *Honest Old Abe's Quick Step* give evidence of the jovial mood in the North before his death. Campaign and patriotic songs such as *Hold On, Abraham* and *Abram's Tea Party* appeared during the war. Immediately after Lincoln's assassination, funeral marches and dirges were published in great profusion.

Rare Lincoln Broad-sides

Two of the rarest and most interesting items in the Lincoln museum are broadsides dealing directly with Lincoln's death. One, the first edition of the Ford Theatre bill for April 15, 1865, carries the announcement of the last performance of Laura Keane, the famous American actress of the sixties, in *Our American Cousin*. Subsequent editions of the handbill announced that the President and Mrs. Lincoln, with a group of friends, would be in attendance that evening. The other item is a first edition of the reward broadsides offering "\$100,000 reward for the murderer of the late beloved President, Abraham Lincoln." Sums of \$50,000 and \$25,000 were offered for the capture of the other conspirators in alliance with Booth.

Funeral Drapery

Among the curios found in the museum is a small piece of the drapery used in preparing the catafalque at the Capitol for the reception of the President's body after his assassination. An early author in describing the scene writes:

"The rotunda of the Capitol into which the coffin was carried, was draped in black, and under the dome was a great catafalque. On this the coffin was placed and, after a simple service, there left alone, save for the soldiers who paced back and forth at the head and foot."

Medals in Books

During 1908 *The Lincoln Centennial Medal* was published in book form in three limited editions of gold, silver, and bronze. The volume containing the Roine medal, described as the most beautiful representation of Lincoln's features that has yet been made, also contains an essay on the symbolism and origin of the medal and a paper describing the purpose of this commemoration. In each volume the medal has been inserted. Only one copy of the gold edition was published. This is now owned by the Huntington Library at San Gabriel, California. One hundred copies of the silver edition and five hundred of the bronze were also published. The Foundation library has copies of both of these latter editions.

Lincoln Authors

Supplementing the very complete library of Lincolniana are hundreds of manuscripts in the handwriting of the authors relating to some phase of their productions. These are so filed that they become a sort of commentary to the printed texts. Among these authors appear the names of many noted Americans.

Life Mask

Leonard Volk, renowned sculptor and lover of Lincoln, has executed a life mask remarkable in its conformity to line and expression. Volk was one of the foremost of the Lincoln sculptors, having also done the Emancipator's statue located in Rochester, New York.

The artist knew Lincoln when he was young, and enjoyed his friendship, which accounts, perhaps, for the living quality of his interpretations of the martyred President. A replica of the life mask as well as a replica of a cast of Lincoln's hand is in our museum.

With Statue

The reproduction of an architect's sketch of the Lincoln Life building at the end of this issue shows a view anticipating a Lincoln statue which will be dedicated soon. It will be placed in the spacious court at the front of the building. This statue is being made by Paul Manship, and will be the first in Indiana erected to the memory of the Emancipator.

From Lincoln's Desk

The paper-weight depicted on this page is one of the Foundation's rarest curios. It was presented to the museum by President Arthur F. Hall, and is unique in that it was the paper-weight in constant and serviceable use on the desk of the President at the time of his assassination.

This weight was presented to Dr. S. Neumann, Veterinary Surgeon General, of the Army of the Potomac, by Major Stackpole, steward at the White House at the time of the President's death. It was sold by the widow of Dr. Neumann. The Company is in possession of affidavits as to the curio's authenticity.



« WHY LINCOLN LAUGHED »

Trimmed the Broom-Handle

Leonard Volk, the artist who made the well-known life mask of Lincoln, a replica of which is in the museum, called on Lincoln one day to make a cast of his hands.

"Those two great hands took both of mine with a grasp never to be forgotten," said the artist.

He then asked Lincoln to hold something in his hands so that the casting could be done, and suggested that a stick would do.

"Thereupon," said Mr. Volk, "he went to the woodshed, and I heard the saw go, and he soon returned to the dining-room, whittling off the end of a piece of broom handle. I remarked to him that he need not whittle off the edges. 'Oh, well,' said he, 'I thought I would like to have it nice.'"

A Difficult Dollar



In his youth, Lincoln ran a ferry on the Ohio river at the mouth of Anderson creek. The only passenger for a whole day was being ferried over, and, to enliven the journey, he told the story of Washington throwing a silver dollar across the Rappahannock at Fredericksburg.

"Well," remarked young Abe, sadly, "he couldn't throw one across the Ohio at the mouth of Anderson creek unless he was doing more business than I am, or unless he stole it."

Over the Top

A humorous incident concerning his lack of military science is related by a recent biographer. His company, marching twenty men abreast, came to a narrow gate through which they had to pass. Captain Lincoln did not know how to give the order to form in single file, and the order probably wouldn't have been understood anyway; so when the company came to the gate, he shouted out that they should disband for two minutes and form in marching order on the other side of the fence. The boys leaped over the fence, or went through the gate, or whichever way they pleased, and were soon in order again and marching on their way.

His Humor

"Lincoln had the keenest sense of humor, and always saw the laughable side, even of disaster," said Robert Ingersoll. "In his humor there was logic and the best of sense. Such was it that he could tell even unpleasant truths as charmingly as most men can tell the things we wish to hear."

Once when he interrupted a Cabinet discussion with his whimsical—"that reminds me of a story"—one of the members protested stoutly about his joking attitude at such a serious time, to which Lincoln replied:

"I say to you now that were it not for this occasional vent I should die!"

Credit the Cow, Too

Once while electioneering, Abe went with an opponent to the house of a prominent farmer in order to get the wife's support. She was starting out to milk the cow, and the opponent chivalrously offered to do the chore for her, talking the while he was doing this task and not realizing that Abe had called the woman out of hearing distance and was talking to her. Abe won the support, while his rival milked the cow.

Popular Chair

Lincoln generally sat in a rickety old chair in the White House. One of his visitors said:

"Mr. President, that is a bad chair. You should have a better one."

"Yes," he replied, "this is a bad chair, but, bad as it is, I am inclined to believe that I know several statesmen who, are perfectly willing to occupy it."

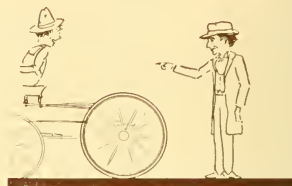
Happiness Recipe

Lincoln's rules for living were: "Don't worry; eat three square meals a day; say your prayers; be courteous to your creditors; keep your digestion good; steer clear of biliousness; exercise; go slow and go easy. Maybe there are other things that your special case requires to make you happy, but, my friend, these I reckon will give you a good lift."

Willing Victim

For awhile during the Civil War, General Fremont was without a command. One day in discussing Fremont's case with another, President Lincoln said he did not know where to place him, and that it reminded him of the old man who advised his son to take a wife, to which the young man responded:

"All right; whose wife shall I take?"



Stayed With It

One day while walking along a dusty road in Illinois in his circuit days, Lincoln was overtaken by a stranger driving to town.

"Will you have the goodness to take my overcoat to town for me?" asked Lincoln.

"With pleasure, but how will you get it again?"

"Oh, very readily. I intend to remain in it," was Lincoln's quick reply.

Just Half Right

One day Lincoln received a call from a man who addressed him as follows:

"Mr. President, I have come to you from Michigan where, to a man, we are for God Almighty and Abraham Lincoln."

The President looked at him thoughtfully and replied:

"My friend, you are just half right."

This Side of Hades

When Lincoln told one trouble-making Senator that his plaint "reminded him of a story," that incensed gentleman retorted:

"It is with you, sir, all story, story! You are the father of every military blunder that has been made during the war. You are on your road to hell, sir, with this Government, by your obstinacy, and you are not a mile off this minute!"

To which Lincoln good-humoredly replied:

"Senator, that is just about from here to the Capitol, is it not?"



HERE AND THERE IN THE MUSEUM

Personnel of Foundation

Dr. Louis A. Warren, director of the Foundation and editor of *Lincoln Lore*, is a noted student of Lincoln. After graduating from Transylvania University at Lexington, he edited a paper at Hodgenville, Kentucky, the birthplace of Lincoln. It was here that he became interested in the Emancipator.

He affiliated with the Company on February 12, 1928, and is chiefly responsible for the development and organization of the museum's resources. He is the author of the book, *Lincoln's Parentage and Childhood*, and many monographs, as well as being a contributor to *Century Magazine*, *National Republic*, and the history magazines of Indiana, Kentucky, Illinois, and Wisconsin.

Much of his time is taken up with speaking engagements before historical societies, luncheon clubs, school groups, and church organizations.

He was awarded the honorary degree of Doctor of Letters by Lincoln Memorial University at Cumberland Gap, Tennessee, in 1929, as a result of his research work.

Assistant to the director, and librarian of the collection, is Murray Schlitz, a graduate of the University of Wisconsin and a student of history. He also assists with the publicity of the department, and has charge of the Foundation in the absence of Dr. Warren, being thoroughly acquainted with the different parts of the museum's collection.

Ethel Henneford, associate editor of *Lincoln Lore*, the weekly publication of the Historical Research Foundation, is a graduate of Indiana University. She is also occupied with preparing magazine and newspaper feature articles about Lincoln, as well as other publicity and research for the department and the Company.

The Best Portrait

"The most satisfactory likeness of him," are the words which Robert Todd Lincoln used in describing the picture of his father, shown in the frontispiece of this issue. The photograph was taken by Brady at Washington on February 9, 1864. It is used on the five-dollar federal reserve notes and three-cent postage stamps.

This reproduction is from an original print, presented by the son of Abraham Lincoln to Arthur F. Hall, President of The Lincoln National Life Insurance Company.

Lincoln Lore

The Research foundation also publishes a broadside named "Lincoln Lore." It is mailed to some three thousand students and devotees of Abraham Lincoln, and is printed in a form suitable to binding into volumes.

The bulletin is the medium through which the findings of the research committee are released, and the needs of authors, collectors, students, and librarians who are gathering Lincolniana are also anticipated. Free distribution of this bulletin is made to a limited number of individuals, libraries, and historical societies concerned with the life of Abraham Lincoln.

Ninety-six issues have been published to date.



LINCOLN'S CABIN

The Library—An Inventory

A total of more than 22,000 separately printed items about Lincoln are to be found in the library.

This inventory does not include the large collection of pictures or the hundreds of general information cards in its files. These are:

- 3,400 titles exclusively Lincoln.
- 550 collateral books.
- 3,000 magazine articles on Lincoln.
- 150 books featuring Lincoln's birth-day exercises.
- 350 catalogues advertising Lincoln items.
- 500 souvenir programs of Lincoln celebrations.
- 100 pieces sheet music and song broadsides.
- 300 contemporary newspapers carrying Lincoln items.
- 1,000 newspapers containing Lincoln articles.
- 3,000 separately mounted newspaper clippings.
- 10,000 manuscripts relating to Lincoln, his relatives, his associates, and his environment.

Contribute to Magazine

Much of the material for this special Lincoln copy has been contributed by Dr. Louis A. Warren, Director of the Foundation, and the Assistant Director and Librarian, Murray Schlitz.

Pickett Profile

The reproduction of the profile of Abraham Lincoln on the cover of this magazine is adapted from the famous Pickett bronze bas-relief which is in the possession of The Lincoln National Life Insurance Company. Pickett, the artist, was a student of Leonard Volk, creator of the well-known life mask of Lincoln.

This profile is one of the best ever executed by any sculptor, and so well it is regarded that it was selected as the model to be used on the United States postcards.

Lincoln Museum and Library

(Continued from Page 3)

were also delivered and published. Allied with these were the resolutions passed by town, city, and state governments, from Boston to Buenos Aires, from California to Germany, all expressing public sympathy. This was a most prolific period of Lincoln literature.

The David H. Griffith Collection of Periodicals and Newspapers is notable because of the insight it gives of the attitude of the press and the public toward Lincoln. Mr. Griffith, lecturer on Lincoln at Ripon College, assembled this material over a long period of years. His collection was purchased for the Foundation in 1929. The magazines total some twenty-seven hundred in number. It is the newspapers, though, that more thoroughly mirror the public's interest in Lincoln. The early newspapers have been left intact, and depict for the reader the President and his times. Newspapers of a later date, however, have been clipped and articles filed.

The manuscript collection consists of four main divisions. The Lincoln letters form an unusual insight into the humanity of the author. The lives and backgrounds of Lincoln's associates and the spirit of the age are strongly evident in the *Helm-Haycraft Collection of Kentucky Documents*. The *Hitchcock Collection of Hanks Family Records* depicts genealogically the maternal side of Lincoln's parentage. The *Richard Thompson Collection of Contemporaneous Manuscripts* shows the political status of the western country over a period of many years.

With minor collections of medals, portraits, pictures, collateral books and pamphlets, songs, broadsides, and programs which add to the interpretation and appreciation of Lincoln's career, and with the Lincoln Library itself, the Lincoln Historical Research Foundation attempts to increase the host of Lincoln admirers.

« « THE POETIC LINCOLN » »

Lincoln and Poetry

It has been said that no other American has had so many poems written about him as has Lincoln. He at one time cherished the ambition to be a poet, although his opportunities to study the works of the greatest of them were few. The first poetry he learned was the old ballads sung to him by his mother. These early English ballads nearly always had a strain of tragedy in them. "Barbara Allan," and "Fair Eleanor," where all three sides of a triangle are mutually and effectively stabbed, were among those she sang.

The boy learned hymns quickly, too; and when the family moved to New Salem in 1830 he met a strolling elocutionist and learned something of Burns and Byron. Shakespeare had his greatest admiration, however; he was accustomed to carrying a copy of the *Bard of Avon's* works in his pocket while riding the circuit. On the last Sunday of Lincoln's life, Senator Sumner recalls that as they were returning to Washington on a steamer, the President was reading Shakespeare aloud to him, and read the following lines from *Macbeth*:

"Duncan is in his grave;
After life's fitful fever he sleeps well;
Treason has done his worst; nor steel
nor poison
Malice domestic, foreign levy, nothing
Can touch him further."

He preferred melancholy poetry, probably a reflex acquired from the days of his mother's ballad singing, and especially loved Gray's "Elegy," quoting one line from it in his autobiography:

"The short and simple annals of the poor."

Touching Epitaph Written For Indian

Lincoln's sense of friendliness and fairness toward other races is revealed in the following epitaph which he wrote for a Kickapoo Indian:

Here lies poor Johnny Kongapod;
Have mercy on him, gracious God,
As he would do if he was God,
And you were Johnny Kongapod.

Memory

Once, in the discouragement of a Congressional campaign, he went back to his old home in Gentryville, Indiana, for a short visit, and afterwards wrote the poem which follows in part:

My childhood's home I see again,
And sadden with the view;
And still, as memory crowds my
brain,
There's pleasure in it, too.

Oh Memory! thou midway world
'Twixt earth and paradise,
Where things decayed and loved ones
lost
In dreamy shadows rise.

Verses by Lincoln Concerning a Friend Who Became Insane

And when at length the drear and long
Time soothed thy fiercer woes,
How plaintively thy mournful song
Upon the still night rose!

I've heard it oft as if I dreamed,
Far distant, sweet and lone;
The funeral dirge it ever seemed
Of reason dead and gone.

But this is past, and naught remains
That raised thee o'er the brute;
Thy piercing shrieks and soothing
strains
Are like, forever mute.

O Death! thou awe inspiring prince
That keepst the world in fear,
Why dost thou tear more blest one's
hence,
And leave him lingering here?

Short Poems Found in Lincoln's Books and Notebooks

Abraham Lincoln, his hand and pen.
He will be good but God knows when.

Time, what an empty vapor 'tis!
And days, how swift they are,
Swift as an Indian arrow,
Fly on like a shooting star.
The present moment just is here,
Then slides away in haste,
That we can never say they're ours,
But only say are past

Lincoln's Favorite Poem

Although Lincoln loved poetry, having the spirit of a poet himself, he had one favorite poem to which he remained faithful all his life. The text of this is indicative of his humble nature. It was written by a Scottish poet, William Knox, and follows in part:

Mortality

Oh! why should the spirit of mortal be proud?
Like a swift, fleeting meteor, a fast-flying cloud,
A flash of the lightning, a break of the wave,
He passeth from life to his rest in the grave.

The leaves of the oak and the willow
shall fade,
Be scattered around and together be laid;
And the young and the old, and the low
and the high,
Shall moulder to dust and together
shall lie.

'Tis the wink of an eye, 'tis the draught of a breath,
From the blossom of health to the paleness of death,
From the gilded salon to the bier and the shroud,
Oh! why should the spirit of mortal be proud?

The Bear Hunt

Lincoln also wrote a poetical description of a bear hunt, with a humorous sermonette at the end, comparing the conceit of human beings to that of a small dog who, on arriving after the bear was killed, went up, growled fiercely, shook him, and claimed the booty.

This poem was unpublished until 1925, when it appeared in the February issue of the *Atlantic Monthly*. Evidently Lincoln considered this sport an exciting one, for he says:

"A wild bear chase didst never see?
Then hast thou lived in vain—
Thy richest bump of glorious glee
Lies desert in thy brain."

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